

31 AUG 1946

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EUROPE-AFRICA

1. **BULGARIA: Prime Minister confers with Byrnes**--Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgiev, in a conversation with Secretary Byrnes on 27 August, admitted that political conditions in Bulgaria were "unsatisfactory" and sought to explain some of the difficulties. In the course of the conversation, Georgiev (a) made it clear that the recent officer purge resulted from the Army's reluctance to accept Communist domination, (b) admitted that great difficulties had been caused by the Communists but credited them with the country's freedom from labor trouble, (c) deplored the departure from the Government of opposition leaders but confessed that many of their complaints were justified, and (d) admitted that the USSR had placed a very narrow interpretation on the Moscow agreements and indicated that his own views were halfway between those of the Soviets and the Anglo-Americans.
2. **HUNGARY: Red Army maneuvers continue**--General Weems, US Delegate ACC, reports that Red Army maneuvers in western Hungary continue (see Daily Summary of 16 August, item 7). Practically all tactical units from western Hungary and probably some from Austria are participating.
3. **AUSTRIA: Effect of new control agreement**--Erhardt reports that the new control agreement, providing for tacit approval of laws unless they are unanimously vetoed by the Allied Council, has had the effect of transferring the veto power from the Soviet element to the US. He points out that while this development tends to strengthen the Austrian Government and "western influence" in the AC, the Soviets will be increasingly reluctant to withdraw their forces from Austria as long as such "Potsdam questions" as their claim to disputed German assets remain unsettled.
4. **SYRIA: Suggested operation of US airline**--US Legation Damascus reports that, although Syria still refuses to conclude a bilateral air agreement with the US, Pan American Airways wishes to begin scheduling flights to Damascus, possibly as soon as 15 September. The Company is, however, unwilling to proceed without some arrangement, if only temporary, with local Syrian authorities. (No US airline previously has been prepared to operate through Syria.)

Document No. 025
 NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
 Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)
 DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763
 Date: 15 MAR 1970 By: 011

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5. **PERU: US jurisdiction in Talara incident denied--US Ambassador Cooper reports that the Peruvian Government has refused to recognize US jurisdiction over the US army enlisted men involved in the recent Talara airbase incident (see Daily Summary of 27 August, item 13). The Peruvians hold that the US court-martial which was convened on 29 August can have jurisdiction only in so far as the matter is concerned with army discipline and have requested that US authorities issue appropriate instructions so that the accused men may be permitted to appear before the local Peruvian court.**

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